

INSTANT RUNOFF VOTING—
VARIOUS CHARTER AMENDMENT APPROACHES

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OPTION A—IMPLEMENT IRV AFTER A SEVERAL-YEAR TRANSITION PERIOD

(1) *Adoption of Instant Runoff Voting.* Consistent with the mandates of federal and state law, Memphis will use Instant Runoff Voting for City Council elections [and for citywide elections, including Mayor, City Court Clerk and City Court Judge.]

(2) *Instant Runoff Voting Defined.* Instant Runoff Voting allows voters to rank candidates in order of preference, ranking as many or as few candidates as they wish. Any candidate receiving a majority of the 1st-place votes cast for that office wins the election. If no such candidate exists, the candidate with the fewest 1st-place votes is eliminated, with the votes for that eliminated candidate redistributed to remaining candidates based on the 2nd-place votes indicated on all the affected ballots. If the redistribution of votes results in a candidate receiving a majority of the votes, that candidate wins. Otherwise, the remaining candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated, and the voters are redistributed as before, with the process of candidate elimination and vote redistribution continuing until a candidate has a majority of the votes cast.

(3) This section will take place at the next municipal election more than __ years after this section becomes effective.

OPTION B –PROVIDE IRV AS AN OPTION FOR LATER ADOPTION

(1) *Optional Instant Runoff Voting.* Consistent with the mandates of federal and state law, the Memphis City Council may by ordinance adopt Instant Runoff Voting for use in City Council elections [and for citywide elections, including Mayor, City Court Clerk and City Court Judge] once the Council determines that the technical capacity exists to implement Instant Runoff Voting elections.

(2) *Instant Runoff Voting Defined.* Instant Runoff Voting allows voters to rank candidates in order of preference, ranking as many or as few candidates as they wish. Any candidate receiving a majority of the 1st-place votes cast for that office wins the election. If no such candidate exists, the candidate with the fewest 1st-place votes is eliminated, with the votes for that candidate redistributed to remaining candidates based on the 2nd-place votes indicated on all the affected ballots. If the redistribution of votes results in a candidate receiving a majority of the votes, that candidate wins. Otherwise, the remaining candidate with the fewest votes is eliminated, and the voters are redistributed as before, with the process of candidate elimination and vote redistribution continuing until a candidate has a majority of the votes cast.